

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Docket No.: 5029.1001

MAR 29 2004

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**AIR-FLOW ROUTING IN THE BOTTOM PART OF A VACUUM CLEANER**

the specification of which (check one)

 is attached hereto was filed on as Application Serial No. and was amended on (if applicable). I hereby authorize and request our attorneys, Davidson, Davidson & Kappel, LLC of 485 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York 10018 to insert here in parentheses (application number 10/1680,321 filed 10/07/2003) the filing date and application number of said application when known.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information that is known to me to be material to the patentability of this application as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign and/or provisional application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign and/or provisional application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

**PRIOR APPLICATION(S)**

DE 102 46 674.2 Number	Germany Country	7 October 2002 Day/Month/Year Filed	Priority claimed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
DE 102 46 675.0 Number	Germany Country	7 October 2002 Day/Month/Year Filed	Priority claimed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application Serial Number	Day/Month/Year Filed	Status
Application Serial Number	Day/Month/Year Filed	Status

And I hereby appoint Clifford M. Davidson, Reg. No. 32,728, Leslye B. Davidson, Reg. No. 38,854, Cary S. Kappel, Reg. No. 36,561, William C. Gehris, Reg. No. 38,156, Morey B. Wildes, Reg. No. 36,968, Robert J. Paradiso, Reg. No. 41,240, Erik R. Swanson, Reg. No. 40,833, Thomas P. Carty, Reg. No. 44,586, and all other registered attorneys and agents at Davidson, Davidson & Kappel, LLC, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Number 23280, my attorneys, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith; correspondence address: DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC, 485 Seventh Avenue, 14th Floor, New York, New York 10018; Telephone: (212) 736-1940; Fax: (212) 736-2427.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Inventor's signature	<i>Helmut Brinkhoff</i>
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 Additional inventors named on attached sheet(s).

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

Docket No.: 5029.1001

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